IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: LOWREY et al.   Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Application No.: 10/810,373   Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: March 26, 2004   Atty Dkt. No. 0307091.0177

Title: **TELEMATICS DEVICE FOR VEHICLES WITH AN INTERFACE FOR MULTIPLE PERIPHERAL DEVICES**

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PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER 37 CFR §1.102(d)

The Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

Applicants hereby petition to make the above-identified U.S. patent application special pursuant to MPEP §708.02(VIII). Applicants have submitted herein a detailed discussion of the references, which discussion points out, with the particularity required by 37 C.F.R. §1.111(b) and (c), how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references pursuant to MPEP §708.02(VIII).

If it is determined that the pending claims are not directed to a single invention, Applicants will make an election without traverse as required under MPEP §708.02(VIII)(B).

Applicants submit that a pre-examination search has been made by a professional

searcher in Class 701, subclasses 29, 31, 33, 35 and 207. Additionally, patent publications were searched in the European Patent Office and the Japanese Patent Office.

Enclosed herewith are copies of the following references which are deemed to be the most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the present claims.

U.S. Patent/Publication No.	Inventor(s)
6,487,494	Odinak et al.
2002/0140545	Nietupski et al.

2002/0173889   Odinak et al.

DETAILED DISCUSSION OF THE REFERENCES

U.S. Patent 6,487,494 (Odinak et al.)

Odinak et al. discloses a system and method for reducing the amount of repetitive data sent by a server to a client for vehicle navigation. The system includes a computer-based vehicle unit located in a vehicle, a gateway configured to wirelessly send and receive trip information to and from the vehicle unit, and a computer-based server in communication with the gateway over a network. The vehicle unit wirelessly receives signals from a computer-based server that includes the desired navigation information in packet form. The vehicle unit includes a user interface component that presents the received navigation information and records user requests. The server processes the requests, generates a trip plan according to the navigation information and sends the generated trip plan back to the vehicle unit via a gateway when a request has been completed (see abstract). However, Odinak et al. does not disclose or suggest an in-vehicle telematics system comprising a *controller comprising a speech-recognition module,* or a *speech-recognition module that is configured to analyze a user's speech to determine a telephone number.*

U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0140545 (Nietupski et al.)

Nietupski et al. discloses a method and system for simplifying a vehicle interface to provide local connectivity to various vehicle systems. The vehicle interface is simplified across many vehicle types and configurations by deploying a local wireless connection (see abstract). However, Nietupski et al. does not disclose or suggest an in-vehicle telematics system comprising a *controller comprising a speech-recognition module,* or a *speech-recognition module that is configured to analyze a user's speech to determine a telephone number.*

U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0173889 (Odinak et al.)

Odinak et al. discloses a vehicle device system that combines the functionalities of integrating vehicle controls, monitoring systems, location tracking and wireless communications

into a device with module receptacles to receive insertable modules that are replaceable, transferable, and upgradeable for performing one of a plurality of telematic functions (see abstract). However, Odinak et al. does not disclose or suggest an in-vehicle telematics system comprising a *controller comprising a speech-recognition module,* or a *speech-recognition module that is configured to analyze a user's speech to determine a telephone number.*
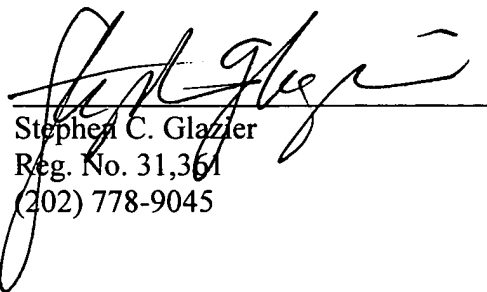
THE PRESENT APPLICATION

Embodiments of the present application relate to an in-vehicle telematics system. In one embodiment, an in-vehicle telematics system features: 1) a controller; 2) a diagnostics system configured to receive diagnostic information from a host vehicle; 3) a position-locating system configured to determine the host vehicle's location information; 4) a communication interface configured to send additional information to a peripheral system other than the diagnostic position-locating systems; and, 5) a wireless transmitter configured to transmit information through a wireless network to an Internet-accessible website.

Claim 47 recites an in-vehicle telematics system of claim 46 wherein a *"controller further comprises a speech-recognition module."* (emphasis added). Additionally, claim 48 recites the system of claim 47 "wherein the *speech-recognition module is configured to analyze a user's speech to determine a telephone number."* (emphasis added).

As discussed above, Odinak et al., Nietupski et al. and Odinak et al. fail to disclose or suggest one or more elements claimed in claims 47 and 48.

Therefore, the present application claims subject matter which is not disclosed, taught or suggested by the foregoing references and is patentable in light thereof. Accordingly, granting of the Petition to Make Special and expedited examination of the claims in the present application are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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